



HALMATURUS MANICATUS. Gould

Woolloombee No. 2

HALMATURUS MANICATUS, Gould.

Black-gloved Wallaby.

Spec. Char.—*Halm. obscurè griseus ; vellere apud partes inferiores pallidior et flavescens ; capite suprâ fuliginoso, occipite necnon auribus externè nigris ; utrâque genâ lineâ flavescens notatâ ; tarsi antipedibusque flavescens, antrorsum nigris ; caudâ nigrâ ad basin griseâ.*

Descr.—General colour of the upper surface of the body deep grey, produced by the admixture of black and white, the hairs being black at the tip, and annulated with white near the tip ; sides and under surface of the body paler grey, tinted with buff-yellow ; this yellow tint is almost pure on the abdomen between the hind legs, on the feet and inner side of the ears : the upper surface of the head and muzzle are of a soot-like colour, and the occiput and back of the ears, as well as the apical portion in front, are pure black ; a yellowish white line is observable on each side of the muzzle, commencing at the tip, and running backwards beneath the eye ; the fore half of the hands and feet are pure black, appearing as if they had been dipped in ink or some other black liquid, the black not blending, as usual, with the pale colour of the hind part of the feet, but terminating in an abrupt line ; the greater portion of the tail (which is well clothed with harsh hairs) is of the same black colour ; at the base, however, it is coloured as the body ; and on the upper surface, for a considerable distance from the base, the black hairs are more or less annulated with whitish, producing a grizzled appearance ; on the chin is a small black patch.

| | Female. | |
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| | feet. | inches. |
| Length from the nose to the extremity of the tail | 5 | 0 |
| „ of tail | 2 | 3 |
| „ „ tarsus and toes, including the nail | | 8½ |
| „ „ arm and hand, including the nails | | 5 |
| „ „ face from the tip of the nose to the base of the ear | | 5½ |
| „ „ ear | | 3½ |

Halmaturus manicatus, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc. for Oct. 13, 1840.

THIS beautiful and singularly marked Wallaby is a native of Swan River, where it would appear to be common, since the rugs usually slept upon by persons who lead a bush-life in Australia are frequently made of its skins. My own specimen, however, is, I believe, the only one that has yet been sent to Europe in a perfect state, although at least forty skins without the head and legs have come under my notice.

The following brief account of this animal has been forwarded to me by Mr. Gilbert, and is, I regret to say, all I have to communicate respecting it :—

“ Found and equally abundant in all parts of the colony of Swan River : generally inhabiting scrubby places : may occasionally be seen feeding on the open plains, but always takes to the scrub again when hunted ; it runs very fast.”

In size it nearly equals *Halmaturus ulabatus* and *Halmaturus Parryi*, to the latter of which it assimilates in many of its characters.